

BOTANY WORSTED MILLS, BAG FACTORY  
176 Parker Avenue  
Passaic  
Passaic County  
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-982-B

HABS  
NJ,  
16-PASA,  
7-B-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

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BOTANY WORSTED MILLS, BAG FACTORY

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Location: 176 Parker Avenue, Passaic, Passaic County, New Jersey

USGS Weehawken, New Jersey Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
18.574000.4524700

Significance: Constructed as a bag factory, the building was originally part of Botany Worsted Mills, founded in 1889 as the first integrated woolen processing plant in the United States.

Description: The one-story, five-bay frame building facing Parker Avenue has a shallow gable roof covered in asphalt shingle with a crudely bracketed cornice. The exterior of the building has been sheathed in corrugated metal, and the regularly spaced windows have been removed; covered openings are still visible on the interior. A round metal stack projects on the exterior of the eastern end of the structure. The interior features narrow horizontal tongue and groove walls stylistically consistent with the 1910-18 construction date. Overall dimensions of the building are 45' x 120'.

History: The buildings at 176 Parker Avenue were originally part of the Botany Worsted Mills complex, founded in 1889 as the first integrated woolen processing plant in the United States. Representing a later period in the development of the mill, the bag factory was built between 1910 and 1918. Botany Mills ceased production in 1955, after which the building was leased to a number of industrial tenants.

No specific documentary evidence was found regarding the building's historic function. Presumably, the bag factory manufactured cloth storage bags for unspun wool.

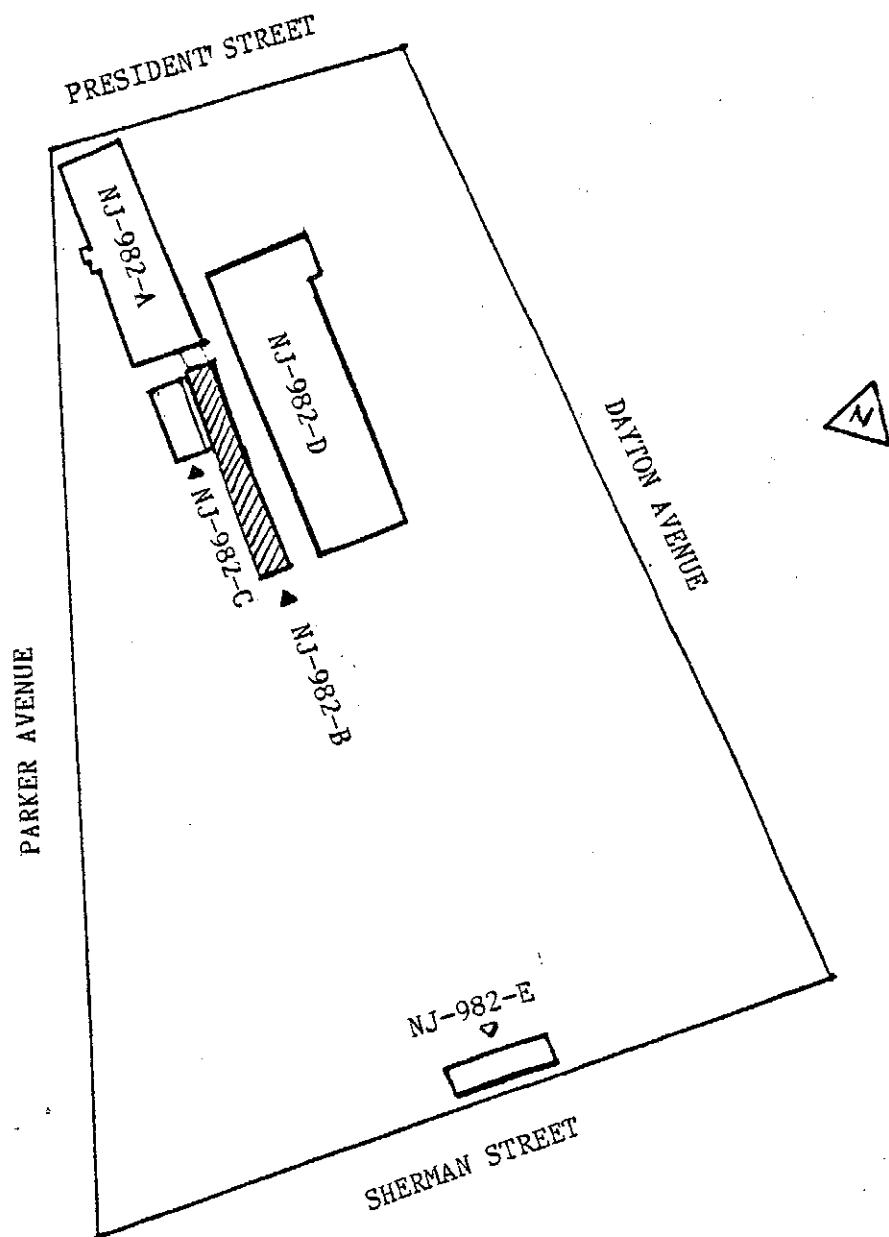
BOTANY WORSTED MILLS  
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No material evidence, either mechanical or architectural, exists to explain the precise activities that took place within the building during its ownership by Botany Mills.

Sources: Sanborn Insurance Maps, City of Passaic, 1910  
and 1918

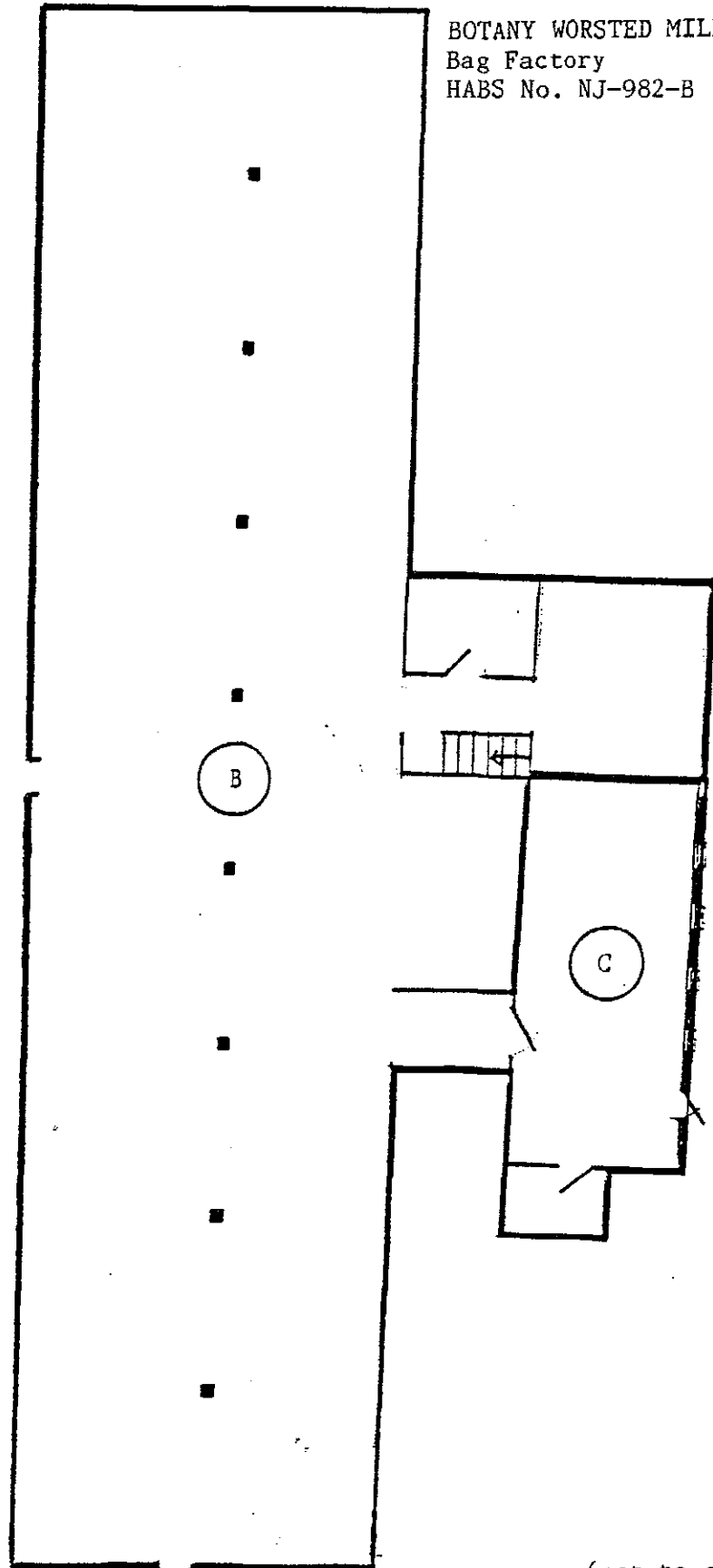
Historian: Sally Milner, ACROTERION, 71 Maple Avenue,  
Morristown, NJ, December 1989

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 = subject property  
(not to scale)

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(not to scale)